

IDAHO HEATING, VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING BOARD MEETING

Wednesday – July 30, 2008 – 10:00 A.M.

Division of Building Safety
Shilo Inn Suites
702 West Appleway, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

NOTE: The following report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting, but is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Minegar at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30, 2008.

Board Members Present:

Pat Minegar, Chairman
Dan Brizee
Carol Alexander
Tom Daniels
Ted Sermon

Board Members Absent:

Steve Brown
Mike Wisdom

DBS Staff Members:

Kelly Pearce, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator, Operations
Carl Lohrengel, HVAC & Plumbing Bureau Chief
Kirk Weiskircher, Financial Specialist, Principal
Kay Christensen, Division Chief, Contracts & Admin.
Law Division, Attorney General's Office
Patrick J. Grace, Deputy Attorney General
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2
Rod Freligh, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector Supervisor
Rick Hill, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector
Terry Blessing, Consultation and Outreach Advisor

Kay Christensen introduced Patrick J. Grace as the Division's new full-time, in-house Deputy Attorney General.

Jim Byrer was recognized with a plaque for his years of distinguished service on the Board.

Chairman Pat Minegar welcomed Ted Sermon, HVAC Contractor Representative, to the Board.

◆ **Open Forum**

New Fee Schedule/Inspection Procedures – The industry was concerned the number of inspections allotted per square feet was not sufficient for residential jobs; therefore, creating additional inspection fees.

The Division will continue to perform the required inspections, barring corrections needing to be brought to code.

ACTION: The Division to remove the quantity of inspections from the fee schedule.

On-Line Courses – Chris Compton, HVACR Education, gave a brief report on the On-Line Apprenticeship program, as well as the Fuel Gas Piping class.

♦ **Approval of the July 30, 2008 Agenda**

MOTION: Dan Brizee moved to approve the Agenda. Ted Sermon seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

♦ **Approval of the May 14, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes**

A Final Order, signed by Chairman Minegar, of the Board's decision to deny the request for Rulemaking to add a Liquefied Petroleum Gas Specialty Certificate of Competency was presented for the Board's review.

MOTION: Dan Brizee moved to approve the Minutes and the Final Order. Carol Alexander seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

♦ **Financial Report**

Kirk Weiskircher presented HVAC's Financial Report. Topics addressed were: Appropriation vs. Actual Costs, Revenue vs. Expenditure and Available Cash.

Ten new fuel efficient vehicles have been ordered. The agency estimated saving 13,000-14,000 gallons of fuel with the hybrid vehicles procured last year.

Inspectors are working four ten-hour work weeks. Dan Brizee requested inspectors work Tuesdays through Fridays as the industry normally completes and requires inspections on Fridays.

MOTION: Carol Alexander moved to adopt the Financial Report as submitted. Ted Sermon seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

♦ **Request for Administrative Appeals Hearing**

Taylor Weaver – Notice of Violation (NOV) HVC-285 – The hearing was held via telephone conference. Patrick Grace was the facilitator. Taylor Weaver and Carl Lohrengel provided testimony and argument on NOV HVC-285, violation of Idaho Code Section 54-5022, "Unlicensed Journeyman, Apprentice, Specialty or Specialty Apprentice".

MOTION: Dan Brizee made a motion to affirm the action taken by the Division of Building Safety imposing civil penalty. Tom Daniels seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ACTION: Deputy Attorney General Patrick Grace to provide Taylor Weaver with a written Final Order of the Board.

J & B Heating, LLC – NOV HVC-286 – Appeal cancelled by Blair Singleton, J & B Heating, LLC, prior to the meeting.

Blacks Chimney Fireplace – NOV HVC-272 – Appeal resolved prior to the meeting.

♦ **Administrative Rules**

Five (5) Year Apprenticeship – This rule would standardize registration requirements for HVAC, Electrical and Plumbing apprentices and specialty apprentices. The five-year and three year periods are sufficient for most apprentices to complete training and transition to journeymen. It also allows a one-year window for employers to evaluate their new hires prior to investing in their

schooling. The registration fee shall be \$50.00 and \$20.00 and shall be valid for five (5) years and three (3) years.

MOTION: Dan Brizee made a motion to submit the proposed rule to the Legislature. Ted Sermon seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Propane Gas Piping Stub Out (Installation Standards) – The Bureau, with Tom Daniels assistance, reviewed language from the 2008 NFPA and LP Gas Code Handbooks; creating draft installation standards for meter/regulator stub outs.

ACTION: The Bureau to incorporate frost and snow load depths into the installation standards.

Inspection Tags – Draft language on Administrative Rule 07.07.01.060, reflecting the current policy on inspection tags, was reviewed by the Board.

MOTION: Carol Alexander made a motion to approve the rule as amended and submitted. Ted Sermon seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Residential Permit Fees – Due to the concerns of the industry, the Division revised the permit fee schedule; simplifying the commercial rate by adding an additional \$65.00 per 1,000 square feet.

MOTION: Dan Brizee made a motion to accept the new fee schedule. Carol Alexander seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Enhanced Contractor Exam**

The pass rate on the HVAC Contractor exam is relatively high. The Board has expressed their desire for the exam to be more challenging. A committee has been created to review the exam; possibility adding an additional 25 questions. The committee is comprised of: Pat Minegar, Dan Brizee, Ted Sermon, Jerry Peterson and Carl Lohrengel.

ACTION: The Committee to convene at the Division's Meridian office; bringing their findings to the October 7, 2008 Board meeting.

◆ **Pressure Testing on Gas Lines and Disparities Among Regulatory Entities**

The industry has addressed concerns regarding the pressure testing requirements on gas lines.

ACTION: The Division to place an article on pressure testing of gas lines in the next issue of their newsletter.

◆ **HVAC Apprenticeship Curriculum**

In the fall of 2008 the following changes to the HVAC Apprenticeship curriculum will be implemented: Fuel Piping and Venting module to be moved to first year, Basic Electricity module to be moved to second year and the Basic Safety and Hand and Power Tools courses have been combined.

◆ **Hearth**

Solid Fuel – A recent incident had Dan Brizee questioning whose authority it is to inspect solid fuel products.

ACTION: Patrick Grace to review the laws relating to the Board and DBS' authority in inspecting sold fuel products; bringing his interpretation to the October 7, 2008 meeting.

♦ **Bureau Chief's Report**

Carl Lohrengel reviewed the ICC HVAC Exam Summary, Journeyman First Exam Attempts and Notice of Violations/Civil Penalty Reports.

It was suggested apprentices completing their fourth year could immediately test rather than wait until the required 8,000 hours are accrued. Upon passing the exam and the accrual of the 8,000 hours, apprentices would be eligible for their journeyman license. After a lengthy discussion the Board chose to stay with the current procedure.

♦ **Administrator's Report**

CAS – The Division is in the testing process. It is projected the first part of 2009 CAS will be available to the industry.

Economy – After traveling through 11 local jurisdictions throughout the Eastern part of the State and meeting with city and county officials, it is anticipated that the construction industry will take a couple of years before there is any significant financial turn around. Three highlighted areas are: Bonneville County (Ariva), Montpelier (modular plant) and several proposed new companies in Bannock County.

Wage Increase – Kelly Pearce, with Kirk Weiskircher's assistance, explained the increases in wages and health insurance benefits as deemed by the Legislature for state employees.

♦ **Scheduling 2009 Meetings**

The following 2009 HVAC Board meeting dates were approved by the HVAC Board: February 17th, 9 a.m.–Meridian; May 13th, 9 a.m.–Twin Falls; July 29th, 10 a.m.–Post Falls and October 14th, 9 a.m.–Meridian.

Chairman Pat Minegar adjourned the meeting at 2:29 p.m.

PAT MINEGAR, CHAIRMAN
HEATING, VENTILATION AND
AIR CONDITIONING BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE